



Weekly Message from Superintendent Ritz July 28, 2014

Welcome back to school to some of you. Others may have a few days left of "summer" but students will soon be entering your doors. As a student and a teacher, I loved the first day of school!!

Supporting students and their families is a vital part of our school communities.

The Department is excited to roll out the Indiana Family Friendly Schools Designation Program. See the memorandum below regarding applications that will be available on August 18th.

Have a great week!

Feel free to leave comments at doecomm@doe.in.gov.

Sincerely,

Glenda Ritz,

Superintendent of Public Instruction



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ESEA Flexibility Waiver

The Indiana Department of Education submitted its application for a waiver from aspects of No Child Left Behind. The application was submitted to the United States Department of Education. A copy of the waiver application can be found here <http://www.doe.in.gov/esea>. If you have any questions please contact Jeff Coyne at jcoyne@doe.in.gov.

State Fair Time

State Fair Excused Absences, SEA 114 allows the governing body of a school corporation or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school to authorize and excuse the absence of a student or if a member of the student's household exhibits or participates in the Indiana State Fair for educational

purposes. ([see memorandum](#)) For more information 317/232-9150 or cdanyluk@doe.in.gov

Indiana State Superintendents' Day At The Fair Saturday, August 2, 2014 10:30 am - 1:00 pm
Indiana State Fairgrounds, join superintendents from around Indiana for an interactive and informational program to learn how the Indiana State Fairgrounds can enhance your students' education, lunch will be provided. Kindly R.S.V.P. to Stephanie DeCamp at sdecamp@indianastatefair.com or by calling 765.650.0828

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IDOE Memoranda

MEMORANDUM: The Indiana Department of Education is pleased to announce the Indiana Family Friendly Schools Designation Program effective on July 1, 2013 via Senate Enrolled Act No. 422. On Monday, August 18, 2014, the Indiana Family Friendly Schools Designation Program application will be available on the [IDOE website](#). The purpose of the program is to focus on addressing the academic, physical, emotional and social needs of students while providing the needed resources and fostering the active involvement of families through schools and the community. Contact Leroy Robinson - lrobinson@doe.in.gov; phone: 317-234-5663

MEMORANDUM: Unused Instructional Facilities, IC 20-26-7-1 All public school corporations must report unused instructional facilities as part of its DOE Master File between July 14, 2014 through August 1, 2014. The Master File can be found at the following link: <https://dc.doe.state.in.us/DOEOnline/Login.aspx>. Contact Jeff Barber by email at jbarber@doe.in.gov or by telephone at (317) 232-9143. Questions regarding the Master File/School Directory (DOE-MF) should be directed to Amy Hart by email at sdlay@doe.in.gov or by telephone at (317) 234-0867. ([see memorandum](#))

MEMORANDUM: State Board of Education adopted new college-and-career-ready Indiana Academic Standards for English/Language Arts and Mathematics (2014). In June (2014), Superintendent Ritz sent a letter to textbook vendors doing business in Indiana to encourage them to work with school corporations and schools to supply additional aligned resources. Contact ahorton@doe.in.gov or at 317-234-5603. See attached [memorandum](#) and visit IDOE's at www.doe.in.gov/standards to find new resources and guidance on the new standards.

MEMORANDUM: English Language Proficiency Placement Assessment Fall 2014, **Placement Test Update** IDOE is currently between contracts with testing vendors that provide the English Language Proficiency Placement Assessment. Therefore, the IDOE will provide the following Placement Tests to identify and place students in the appropriate language development program at this time: (See Attached [Memorandum](#) regarding Test) contact Karen Stein at kstein@doe.in.gov (317) 232-9050

MEMORANDUM: The Critical Role of School Counselors, First Lady Michelle Obama and Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan brought school counselors to the forefront of education, specifically in the areas of academic and postsecondary preparedness and success. Indiana has also been having this important discussion about the role of the school counselor, which was contributed to by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. Contact Amanda Culhan, IDOE Program Coordinator for School Counseling; aculhan@doe.in.gov To view First Lady's remarks and additional information click on the [memorandum](#).

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Professional Development

Education Service Centers will be offering RISE Teacher Evaluation Training between June 2014 and September 2014. Below are the scheduled dates and their registration sites:

- East Central ESC RISE August 21 and September 10th (www.ecesc.k12.in.us)
- Southern Indiana ESC: August 27-28, 2014 (<http://www.siec.k12.in.us>)
- Northwest Indiana ESC: September 4-5, 2014 (<http://www.nwiesc.k12.in.us>)
- Central Indiana ESC: September 18-19, 2014 (<http://www.ciesc.k12.in.us>)

Central Indiana Educational Services, (CIESC) offers a variety of professional learning workshops, to view these events visit www.ciesc.k12.in.us, view events calendar on right side bar or click on

Services, then Professional Learning.

Hands in Autism, Bus rides can be challenging for many students and students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) are no different. However, with a basic understanding of ASD and tooled with some practical and proactive strategies, the bus driver and staff can set up for successful and safe bus drives to and from school. For [more information](#) and registration information please visit: <https://handsinautism.iupui.edu/workshops.html>

The Indiana Resource Center for Autism is a statewide training and technical assistance center that helps students across the autism spectrum and across the grades. For more information about our center, visit our website at www.iidc.indiana.edu/irca.

The Indiana Resource Center for Autism is taking applications for ongoing coaching in schools across Indiana. Click on this link to find out more about this opportunity: [http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/IRCA/IRCAPDAApplication14%20\(4\).pdf](http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/IRCA/IRCAPDAApplication14%20(4).pdf).

IRCA is also available for training, individual consultations and offers a host of other services. To find out more about our training calendar, click on this link: <http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/IRCA/IRCAServiceOptionsFinal.pdf>. For additional information, contact Dr. Cathy Pratt, BCBA-D, Director at prattc@indiana.edu.

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Legislative & Policy Updates

For updates, check out the our [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#).

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Information from Other Agencies

[Fruit Tree 101](#) *Deadline: Rolling* , The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation's "Fruit Tree 101" program creates outdoor edible orchard classrooms at public schools of all levels, across the country, to provide generations of students with environmental education opportunities and a source of organic fruit for improved school lunch nutrition. Please contact The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation for more information and to apply for this funding: <http://www.ftpf.org/resources.htm>

Dig In! Standards-Based Nutrition Ed from the Ground Up [Dig In!](#), a standards-based nutrition education curriculum from USDA's Team Nutrition, helps kids, teachers, and parents explore a world of possibilities in the garden and on the plate. Dig In! also includes a gardening guide, booklets for parents/caregivers, and six dynamic posters encouraging fruit and vegetable choices using themes that appeal to older elementary school children. Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program or other Child Nutrition program may request a free print copy of the curriculum.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/dig-standards-based-nutrition-education-ground>

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Ford Hoosier Outdoor Experience - the Midwest's largest outdoor recreational event - is searching for volunteers. The 2014 event will take place at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis, 9/20-9/21. This free, family-friendly event offers more than 50 different outdoor activities and runs from 10am-6pm each day. Volunteers will be assigned to help with one of the many on-site activities such as fishing, mountain biking, canoeing, archaeological dig and more. Sign up to volunteer today at <https://2014outdoorexperiencevolunteer.eventbrite.com> Contact Cheryl Hampton, (317) 233-1002, champton@dnr.in.gov. Visit us online at www.hoosieroutdoorexperience.IN.gov or facebook.com/hoosieroutdoorexperience.

Indiana Department of Education
Imagining the possibilities. Making them happen.

